

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked-up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis, underlined text indicating insertions, and strike through and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a lens cell comprising:
an embryonic stem (ES) cell maintenance step of maintaining an ES cell by using a medium containing a fibroblast growth factor FGF-2 at a concentration of 2 ng/ml to 50 ng/ml;

a washing step, carried out between the ES cell maintenance step and the differentiation inducing step, of washing the maintained ES cell only once with an ES differentiation medium; and

a differentiation inducing step, carried out after the ES cell maintenance step, of inducing differentiation of the ES cell into a lens cell by implanting and culturing the ES cell on a mouse-skull-cell PA6 at a cell density of 2 colonies/cm² to 6.5 colonies/cm².

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a lens cell as set forth in Claim ~~2~~1, wherein the differentiation inducing medium used for inducing differentiation of the ES cell into a lens cell is used as the ES differentiation medium.

4. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a lens cell as set forth in Claim 1, wherein, in the ES cell maintenance step, the medium contains the fibroblast growth factor FGF-2 at a concentration of 4 ng/ml to 50 ng/ml.

5. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a lens cell as set forth in Claim 1, wherein, in the differentiation inducing step, the ES cell is implanted on the PA6 cell at a cell density of 2.5 colonies/cm² to 4.0 colonies/cm².

6. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a lens cell as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the ES cell is derived from primates.

7. (Original) A method of producing a lens cell as set forth in Claim 6, wherein the ES cell is derived from cynomolgus monkey.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ An isolated lens cell obtained by a method of producing a lens cell set forth in Claim 1.

9-10. (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a lens cell as set forth in Claim 3, wherein, in the ES cell maintenance step, the medium contains the fibroblast growth factor FGF-2 at a concentration of 4 ng/ml to 50 ng/ml.

12. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a lens cell as set forth in Claim 3, wherein, in the differentiation inducing step, the ES cell is implanted on the PA6 cell at a cell density of 2.5 colonies/cm² to 4.0 colonies/cm².

13. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a lens cell as set forth in Claim 4, wherein, in the differentiation inducing step, the ES cell is implanted on the PA6 cell at a cell density of 2.5 colonies/cm² to 4.0 colonies/cm².

14-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a lens cell as set forth in Claim 3, wherein the ES cell is derived from primates.

18. (Previously Presented) A method of producing a lens cell as set forth in Claim 17, wherein the ES cell is derived from cynomolgus monkey.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ An isolated lens cell obtained by a method of producing a lens cell set forth in Claim 3.